Section 180(c)

Section 180(c), Nuclear Waste Policy Act requires the Department of Energy (DOE) to provide technical assistance and funds to States for training for public safety officials of appropriate units of local government and Indian tribes through whose jurisdiction the Secretary plans to transport spent nuclear fuel or high-level radioactive waste.

- Training shall cover both safe routine transportation and emergency response procedures.
- Covers all modes of transportation.
- Funding will come from the Nuclear Waste Fund.

Section 180(c): Issues

- Funding Distribution Method:
 - DOE has committed to direct grants to States and Tribes.

- Funding Allocation Method:
 - Proposed approach for tribes is to use a needs assessment. Proposed approach for states is to use a formula.

Section 180(c): Issues

Timing and Eligibility:

 Proposed approach is that funding begins about 4 years prior to initial shipment.

Allowable Activities:

 Proposed approach is for recipients to have discretion regarding activities undertaken.
Proposed activities must match program goals and be approved through grant review process.

Section 180(c): Issues

- Definitions:
 - Safe Routine Transportation
 - Technical Assistance

Section 180(c): Brief History

- Several prior efforts to develop grant policy
 - The 1998 proposed policy is the most recent publication
- Renewed efforts in 2004
 - Section 180(c) Topic Group (mostly State representatives, 2 tribal representatives)
 - Drafted recommendations for RW management regarding the Section 180(c) approach
 - Tribal Topic Group, Individual tribal governments
 - Last year we began discussing policy and issues of concern with tribal governments and through the TEC Tribal Topic Group

Section 180(c): Next Steps

- Draft 180(c) policy is under review within DOE
 - Expect to publish later this year
- DOE intends to issue separate policy for tribal governments
 - Funding allocation method
 - Definition of eligibility
- We will discuss the policy
 - Today (briefly)
 - At the tribal workshop in Denver (in depth)
 - With individual tribal governments